



NEWSLETTER

Mourning the Loss of a Public Servant

We often recall the words engraved on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington D.C. at the passing of an Officer: "it was not how these officers died that made them heroes; it is how they lived." These words ring ever so true about Officer Brian T. Johnson. Brian was true public safety servant as a nine-year veteran of the Bladensburg Police Department and also a member of the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department. He often could be found doing one or the other in the effort to save lives and make a better community.

Brian lived a life full of enthusiasm for his family, for his friends, and for his fellow officers and fire fighters. He could always be counted to defend the weak against the strong and to fight for what was right. He believed good should prevail over evil and he worked to make it so. Other officers just felt safer knowing Brian was around. To quote one of them, "this was the guy you wanted to show up if either you or one of your family members ever needed help."

We lost Brian on April 28th, 2013. While our Town family will miss Brian, he has not left us. The things he taught us about giving one's all and his deep love of this community



will remain as a constant beacon of what it truly means to be a committed courageous public servant, dedicated to the community he served.

*"I have been where you fear to be.
I have seen what you fear to see.
I have done what you fear to do.
All these things I've done for you.*

*I am the one you lean upon.
The one you cast your scorn upon.
The one you bring your troubles to,
All these people I've been for you.
The one you ask to stand apart.
The one you feel should have no heart.
The one you call the officer in blue.
But I am human, just like you.*

*And through the years I've come to see
that I am not always what you ask of me.
So I offer that you take up this badge and
take this gun. Will you take it?
Will anyone?*

*And when you watch a person die,
And hear a battered baby cry.
Then do you think that you can be hope
for all and those things you ask of me?"*

- Author Unknown -



Inside this Issue

- This Is Not Good Bye...
- Severe Weather
- Bostwick Spring Fest.
- "In the Spotlight"
- Port Towns Day
(Save the Date)
- Town Elections
- Community Youth Graduating in Style
- Community Shred Event



Contact Us

301-927-7048
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(Complete information list on back)



This Is Not Good Bye, But See You Soon....



It has been my pleasure to serve alongside you and the other Members of the Town of Bladensburg Council for over eight years. During that time we have ushered in much positive change for our community. Community interaction events such as the community clean-ups have made a vast impression among our residents as well as the actual appearance of our community. We have brought our community together through community festivals that have echoed our diversity as well as instilled community pride. We have done great things to preserve our community's future through our commitment to sustainability as evidenced by our numerous awards. We have made the Town safer over the years with the strong support of our community through the establishment and active neighborhood watch and formation of a well-trained CERT Team. All of these I have been fortunate to be a part of and assist you and the other members in leading the charge.

Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, I no longer reside in this great Town that I have served for many years and now must resign consistent with directions of the Town's Charter.

Although there may be some sadness in this, it has been stated that "To everything there is a season." This is my season and a time for change. I will continue to serve in community clean-ups and other efforts where and when I can. I wish you as Council and our residents the very best and encourage you to keep on moving forward to greatness.

Walter G. George

Walter G. George
Council Member, Ward II



Front Row: Senator Victor Ramirez, Council Member Walter George, Council Member Trina Brown, Delegate Jolene Ivey, Chair of the Prince George's Delegation
Back Row: Delegate Doyle Niemann, Mayor Walter James, Council Member Cris Mendoza, Council Member Walter Ficklin



The Town of Bladensburg, as many other communities has seen its share of severe weather over the years. As we approach summer, the threat of harsh storms looms. Here are a few of the differently types of emergency situations you could encounter along with a few general precautions and safety measures you should follow. *(List is NOT all inclusive, but is offered as a general guide.)*

THUNDERSTORMS

Thunderstorms produce many dangerous and severe forms of weather. Lightning, destructive winds, heavy rain and hail can all be products of thunderstorms. **Severe Thunderstorm Watch** means conditions are favorable for severe weather. Continue normal activity, but monitor weather conditions closely. **Severe Thunderstorm Warning means to seek shelter immediately** and monitor conditions on radio or television. Follow all of the above instructions until the storm passes.

What To Do

- If you are outside, get into a building, car or bus.
- If you are in the woods, pick a low area under small trees.
- If you are swimming or boating, get out of the water immediately
- If you are in an open area, head for low ground such as a valley or ravine, or crouch down.

What Not To Do

- **Do not** touch metallic objects such as bicycles, fences, golf clubs, and equipment such as lawnmowers.
- **Do not** go near trees, poles, hills, clotheslines, overhead wires, metal pipes, or water.
- **Do not** huddle if in a group -- but spread out.
- **Do not** use the telephone except in an emergency.

FLASH FLOODS

In many regions flash floods can strike with little or no warning. Local rains may be so intense that small creeks and streams are unable to accommodate so much water. Storm drains and culverts may turn into raging bodies of water. The force of one foot of swiftly moving water can knock people off their feet.

A **Flash Flood Watch** means that heavy rains may cause flash flooding in certain areas.

A **Flash Flood Warning** means that flash flooding is occurring or imminent for certain streams or in designated areas.

Observe these flash flood safety rules -- they could save your life!

- Stay away from open channels, ditches and culverts.
- Watch out for rising water levels and do not try to drive through areas with 12 inches or more of water. Be careful of bridges and dips in the road.
- Abandon your vehicle if water begins to rise over the road and head for higher ground immediately.

TORNADOES

Tornadoes are violent storms with spiraling high-speed winds. Tornadoes are usually accompanied by hail, severe thunderstorms and wind. The noise of a tornado has been described as a roaring sound -- like a train far away.

A **Tornado Watch** means there is a possibility of one or more tornadoes in your area. Continue normal activity but monitor weather conditions closely. A **Tornado Warning means a tornado has been sighted and may be approaching -- seek shelter immediately.**

Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls. Protect your head.

In **homes and small buildings, go to the basement** or to an interior part of the lowest level -- take shelter in closets, bathrooms or interior halls away from windows. Get under something sturdy or lie in the bathtub and cover yourself with a blanket. Stay away from exterior glass doors. In **high-rise buildings; go to interior, small rooms or hallways** on the lowest floor possible with no windows.



Welcome Back!
Bladenswoods Residents
We Missed You!

Bladenwoods residents who were displaced during the storm on June 22, 2012, are scheduled to return at the end of May 2013. **WELCOME HOME!!!!**



Port Towns Day



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday

September 21st 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.

Come Join us for the 18th Annual Port Towns Day held at the beautiful Bladensburg Waterfront Park. It will be a fun filled and festive day with food, rides, crafts, and live entertainment!

Vendors and Volunteers Needed. For More information please call 301-927-7048.



Bostwick SPRING FESTIVAL



BOSTWICK

A Bladensburg tradition since 1746. 48th Street, Bladensburg




Tulio “Chuchi” Mendoza enlisted in the U.S. Army on August 6, 2012 and went to Army Basic Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. During the nine weeks of training, Chuchi received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare, bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, and justice. Upon graduation from Basic Training he was awarded the Rifle Marksmanship and the Grenade Sharpshooter badges. In October, Chuchi started Radiology School at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, where he was promoted twice, first to Private and two months later to Private First Class. A special waiver was requested by the commanding officer in order to promote Chuchi to Private First Class ten months earlier than scheduled due to his devotion and dedication to service. Chuchi graduated Army Radiology School on April 25, 2013.

Chuchi has been a regular fixture in the Town for the last ten years. He has participated in cleanups, tree plantings, and pretty much just about every event in the town. He also volunteered at all the National Night Outs, Cinco de Mayo celebrations, Mexican Independence festivities, and many


patriotic events, such as Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Veterans Day.

Chuchi graduated from Bladensburg High School in 2012 and decided to join the military following a long family tradition. His father Cris Mendoza served in the U.S. Air Force, and his grandfather and great grandfather both served in the Army in the Dominican Republic. We congratulate Chuchi on his accomplishments so far, and wish him all the best as he now goes to Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, North Carolina for his Radiology Residency.


We Congratulate Tulio “Chuchi” Mendoza on his successes. If you have success story to share, please contact us via email at jmoss@bladensburg.net.



THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
FOR
THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
AND
BLADENSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT



PRESENT



TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH 2013

5PM-8PM

BLADENSBURG WATERFRONT PARK

4601 ANNAPOLIS ROAD

BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND 20710

FOOD*FUN*PRIZES*MUSIC*FACEPAINTING



TOWN OF BLADENSBURG MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 7, 2013

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
TOWN HALL COUNCIL ROOM



The Town of Bladensburg Municipal Election is held in odd numbered years and falls on the first Monday in October.

Open Positions:

Mayor: A four (4) year term currently held by Walter L. James, Jr. **Important Change:** The Town Charter was recently amended so that the Mayor will serve a four year term instead of a two year term, starting with the 2013 election. This amendment went into effect on May 28, 2013.

Qualifications for Mayor: The Mayor is an "At Large" position. The Mayor must be 30 years old, a registered voter in Town, and resident of the Town.

Council Member, Ward I: A four (4) year term currently held by Cris Mendoza.

Council Member, Ward II: A four (4) year term currently held by Walter Ficklin.

Council Member, Ward II: A two (2) year term to fill the position vacated by Walter George.

Qualifications for Council Member: Council Members must be 25 years old, registered voters in Town and be residents of the Wards they represent.

Important Election Related Dates:

August 23, 2013: Last Date to file as a Candidate for any of the above positions.

September 6, 2013: Last Day to Register to Vote.

September 30, 2013: Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot

October 7, 2013, 7:00 p.m.: Last Day and Time for the Absentee Ballot to be received by the Judges of Election

Financial Disclosure Statements

Under the Town of Bladensburg's Ethics Ordinance, all candidates are required to file Financial Disclosure Statements, no later than the filing for candidacy (Except for an official who has filed a FDS under another provision of this section for the reporting period). Please see the Town Clerk for specific requirements.

For any further information please contact Pat McAuley, Town Clerk at 301-927-7048 or pmcauley@bladensburg.net

Calendar

Worksessions

Second Monday of every month, 5:30 p.m.
(Excluding holidays)

Council Meetings

Second Monday of every month, 7:00 p.m.

Seniors' Club

Town Hall, 10 a.m., 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month

Bulk Trash Pick-up

3rd Saturday of every month. Please call by noon the Friday before.

Neighborhood Watch

Every Friday, 7:00 p.m.
Call 301-927-8126 for info.

CERT Meetings

Second Saturday of every month, 9:00 a.m.
Call 301-927-8126 for info. Please call by noon the Friday before





Community Youth Graduating in Style



Council Member Trina Brown, Lenetta Mallory, Michaela Peterson and Mayor Walter James
Photo by: End Time Harvest Ministries

On Saturday May 18th, 2013 the First Annual Community Shred Day went off without a hitch. Shred Days are community events where the public can drop off personal documents to be securely shredded and destroyed. This directly helps prevent identity theft and related crimes by ensuring the complete destruction of all paper items that contain information that could be used by an identity thief. Collectively over twenty (20) persons from our communities had the opportunity to use this service **FREE of CHARGE**. *If you missed this event, we are considering planning another one. Let us know if you would like to see another and when. Please contact dduncan@bladensburg.net to let us know.*



Remember when you load the family into the car and head out to a fun filled destination, always keep in mind that criminals may be sharing your day with you. **Always lock your doors** and roll up the windows when you leave your car. Car thieves regularly patrol parking lots and try door handles to see if they will open. Finally, remember to **use a timer on your lights when away**, and have a neighbor pick-up your mail and newspapers.

Town of Bladensburg
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

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Contact Information

Mayor

Walter James301-452-7560

Council Members Ward I

Cris Mendoza240-604-6349

Trina Brown301-927-7048

Council Members Ward II

Walter Ficklin301-792-8199

Vacant

Administrative Offices

301-927-7048

Code Enforcement

301-927-0330

Police Department

301-864-6080

Public Works

301-927-1452